

FCC REPORTS NETWORK NEWS 6:30 APRIL 16-30/ PART 2

04/16/2012

CALIFORNIA TEACHERS LAYOFF

LILIANA ESCALANTE - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG: 1:49

Open hearing began today for 9,500 teachers, librarians, counselors and nurses, who were sent preliminary pink slips by L.A. Unified and may lose their jobs at the end of this school year. In what has become a dark ritual, the district and teachers now engage in the RIF dance, as some call it: Notices are sent, hearings are held at the cost of millions to the district, some notices are rescinded before the school year ends, and other teachers are hired back as budgets become more clear. By law the district must inform educators of their possible termination by March 15, forcing them to send the preliminary pink slips before state and local budgets can be finalized and their consequences analyzed. This is the fourth consecutive year of such hearings, the administrative law judge rule on the legality and technical accuracy of the notices on issues such as seniority, credentialing, among others.

TAX DEADLINES

LOURDES DEL RIO - MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG: 1:55

Happy Emancipation Day, everybody. Thanks to an unusual holiday in the nation's capital city, celebrating the end of slavery there in 1862, taxpayers across America have been liberated from the tax man for an extra day. You have until April 17 to file your federal tax returns, or to apply for an extension. Typically the deadline each year is April 15. Here's why things are different this year: April 15 came on a Sunday, with no mail pickup by the US Postal Service. Then comes April 16, which is Emancipation Day in the District of Columbia. The district's celebration doesn't make it a federal holiday, but the Internal Revenue Service says that "according to federal law, District of Columbia holidays impact tax deadlines in the same way that federal holidays do."

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04/17/2012

RACIAL PROFILE HEARINGS

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ. NEW YORK

PKG 1:40

A Washington Post investigation reveals that officials have known for decades that flaws in forensic techniques have led to the convictions of innocent people. Justice Department officials have known for years that flawed forensic work might have led to the convictions of potentially innocent people, but prosecutors failed to notify defendants or their attorneys even in many cases they knew were troubled. Officials started reviewing the cases in the 1990s after reports that sloppy work by examiners at the FBI lab was producing unreliable forensic evidence in court trials. Instead of releasing those findings, they made them available only to the prosecutors in the affected cases, according to documents and interviews with dozens of officials. In addition, the Justice Department reviewed only a limited number of cases and focused on the work of one scientist at the FBI lab, despite warnings that problems were far more widespread and could affect potentially thousands of cases in federal, state and local courts. As a result, hundreds of defendants nationwide remain in prison or on parole for crimes that might merit exoneration, a retrial or a retesting of evidence using DNA because FBI hair and fiber experts may have misidentified them as suspects.

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04/18/2012

HISPANIC VOTE

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:00

Obama for America today released the first in a series of Spanish language television and radio ads. The ads feature first person accounts from Obama for America organizers sharing their personal stories of how the President's policies have empowered Latino families and communities. The release of the ads coincides with the launch of Latinos for Obama, the largest ever national effort to engage Latino Americans in their communities and involve them in the upcoming election through voter registration, volunteering and voting. In the month the President took office, more than 800,000 Americans lost their jobs. To rebuild an economy that gives everyone a fair shot and the opportunity to succeed, the President took action to keep two million Latinos out of poverty during the worst recession of our lifetimes, to help an additional 150,000 Hispanic students afford to go to college, and expanded access to credit for small businesses, including more than 9,000 Small Business Administration-supported loans that went to Hispanic-owned small businesses through 2011. The President also passed health care reform, which will ensure up to nine million previously uninsured Hispanics have improved access to affordable health care.

INFANT ABUSE

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ. NEW YORK

PKG 2:00

About 77,000 children were victims of abuse and neglect in New York in 2010, more than 200 per day, of which 114 killed, report given by a group of prosecutors calling for funds to maintain a program that seeks to reduce such crimes. ' Fight Crime - Invest in Kids' is the study that reveals the extent of child abuse in the State, and prosecutors of the counties of Brooklyn Charles j. Hynes, Richard a. Brown Queens and Richmond Daniel M. Donovan revealed to ask the Governor and the State legislature to keep the funds for the programme of visits by nurses to homes at risk of this type of abuse. Prosecutors requested in addition to the Democratic Governor Andrew Cuomo to 'aggressively' fight for federal funds to expand the programme of visits in New York.

BLOOD TEST FOR DEPRESION

VO :20

Even among psychiatric disorders, depression is a difficult disease to diagnose. Its causes remain a mystery, its symptoms can't be defined with precision, and treatments are spotty at best. But that may soon change. Scientists are looking for ways to identify patients with depression as reliably as they diagnose cardiovascular disease and cancer. A new study takes a significant, though preliminary, step in that direction by demonstrating that a simple blood test can distinguish between people who are depressed and those who are not. The test examined a panel of 28 biological markers that circulate in the bloodstream and found that 11 of them could predict the presence of depression at accuracy levels that ranged from medium to large. And if that were not remarkable enough, researchers pulled off this feat in a group of teenagers, whose angst often defies all efforts at classification.

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04/19/2012

ALABAMA IMMGRATION

MARIA ANTONIETA COLLINS. MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

PKG 2:00

A proposed law that makes some changes to the controversial law of Alabama immigration was approved by a panel of the lower House of the State, but Democratic lawmakers complained that it does enough to address concerns that the law allows racial labeling by the police. The Committee on public safety and national security of the House Baja voted 6-3 on Tuesday for the proposal submitted by the Micky Hammon of Decatur Republican. It responds to some concerns of critics of the Immigration Act, which was passed by the legislature last year. The proposal adds text to specify that religious groups and their members can attend to people regardless of their migratory status.

BORDER SECURITY

LUIS MEGID. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:47

The safety reinforcement on the border between the United States and Mexico has not prevented from dealing any more drugs across(through) the limits do not even from not even being any more immigrants exposed to the violence of the Mexican cartels, he(he) made sure a report spread Thursday. The School of the Border of the North (COLEF), in Tijuana, and the Washington Office on Latin America, two dependences not governmental, they expressed(emitted) a joint report that it demonstrates like(as) the drugs drug traffickers interfered in the traffic of you present yourself because it represents a lucrative business.

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04/20/2012

AUTO IMPOUND POLICY

LILIANA ESCALANTE. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:00

The Los Angeles Police Protective League files suit over a controversial policy that will limit cases in which officers impound vehicles of drivers operating without a license. The new procedures put officers in conflict with state laws and could expose them to civil liability, according to the suit. The Los Angeles Police Protective League filed suit Wednesday against the city and its Police Department over a controversial policy that will limit cases in which police officers impound vehicles of drivers operating without a license. The new procedures put Los Angeles police officers in conflict with state laws governing 30-day impounds and could expose them to civil liability, according to the lawsuit filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court. The union, which represents more than 9,900 sworn LAPD employees, is asking a judge to determine the validity of the policy and impose an injunction to stop it from being implemented.

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04/21/2012

NOTHING TO REPORT

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04/22/2012

NOTHING TO REPORT

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04/23/2012

SB 1070 HEARING PREVIEW

JAIME GARCIA / PHOENIX, ARIZONA

PKG 2:25

On April 25, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments about, Arizona's controversial 2010 immigration law that seeks to crack down on undocumented immigrants. At stake is whether it is constitutional for states to create their own immigration legislation, since the decision could set a precedent for other state-based immigration laws. The case could also potentially impact the Latino vote during the upcoming U.S. presidential election. It may also stir concerns in Latin America, given that several countries in the regions voiced opposition to the legislation.

LESS MEXICANS IN THE US

O/C :49

The number of Mexican immigrants living illegally in the U.S. has dropped significantly for the first time in decades, a dramatic shift as many illegal workers, already in the U.S. and seeing few job opportunities, return to Mexico. An analysis of census data from the U.S. and Mexican governments details the movement to and from Mexico, a nation accounting for nearly 60 percent of the illegal immigrants in the U.S. It comes amid renewed debate over U.S. immigration policy as the Supreme Court hears arguments this week on Arizona's tough immigration law.

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4/24/12

SCOTUS HEARING ON SB1070

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:11

The decision the Supreme Court makes regarding Arizona's vehemently anti-immigrant law will show whether the justices value human rights, said members of the Fair Immigration Reform Movement (FIRM), a network of community-based immigrant advocacy organizations in 25 states.

REGISTRATION TO VOTE

LUIS MEGID / SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:03

How important is the hispanic vote? A new Univision Campaign is calling hispanics to register and vote.

STUDENT LOAN COSTS

LOURDES DEL RIO / MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:08

The White House said on Tuesday that it was reviewing whether a small business tax loophole should be closed to pay for an extension of low interest rates on student loans that President Barack Obama wants Congress to deliver. The loophole allows some shareholder-employees of so-called "S corporations" to avoid paying the Medicare payroll tax on their earnings.

EMERGENCY HAND SANITIZER

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ / NEW YORK

PKG 1:54

Doctors are warning parents about a dangerous new trend after six teenagers drank hand sanitizer and ended up in San Fernando Valley emergency rooms with alcohol poisoning. Teenagers are using salt to separate the alcohol from the sanitizer, doctors said. Although there have been only a few cases, Rangan

said the practice could easily become a larger problem. Bottles of hand sanitizers are inexpensive and accessible and teens can find instructions on distillation on the Internet.

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4/25/12

SB 1070 SUPREME COURT

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:31 & LIVER

JAIME GARCIA / PHOENIX, ARIZONA

PKG 1:46 & LIVER

INTERVIEW WITH REP. LUIS GUTIERREZ (D) ILLINOIS

APROX. 2:00

Supreme Court justices strongly suggested Wednesday that they are ready to allow Arizona to enforce part of a

controversial state law requiring police officers to check the immigration status of people they think are in the country illegally. Liberal and conservative justices reacted skeptically to the Obama administration's argument that the state exceeded its authority when it made the records check, and another provision allowing suspected illegal immigrants to be arrested without a warrant, part of the Arizona law aimed at driving illegal immigrants elsewhere.

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4/26/12

ARIZONA SB 1070

JAIME GARCIA. TUCSON, ARIZONA

PKG 2:00

On the day the Supreme Court considered the constitutionality of Arizona's law to combat illegal immigration, Arizonans reflected on what the controversy over the law had meant for the state. Kathleen Hertenstein, who teaches English as a second language at the university and has lived in Tucson for 20 years, said the law certainly had tarnished the state's reputation in the eyes of many. "People view Arizonans as the backward, uneducated, racist people of the country," she said in an interview. A boycott of the state in protest of the law also hit hard. One study by the liberal think tank the Center for American Progress said that conventions canceled after SB 1070 cost the state more than \$23 million in lost tax revenue and at least \$350 million in direct spending by conventions' would-be attendees. But the state has also won considerable praise, and other states, notably Alabama and Georgia, patterned legislation after Arizona's law.

HOUSE WOMAN VIOLENCE ACT

VO: 20

The Senate has passed a bill to renew the government's main domestic violence program. The 68-31 vote to renew and expand the Violence Against Women Act sends the matter to the House, which is writing its own version. The 1994 law is designed to protect women and children from abuse, and historically has been without controversy. But this election year, gender politics roiled the debate for weeks. But Republicans never tried to block the measure. Instead they proposed removing specific references to protecting gays, lesbian and transgender people, and capping the number of visas for battered immigrants.

FLORIDA DRUG TEST UNCONSTITUCIONAL

VO :20

A federal judge declared Gov. Rick Scott's order requiring drug testing for some 85,000 state workers unconstitutional Thursday, saying the governor showed no evidence of a drug problem at the agencies to warrant testing without suspicion. The ruling marks the second blow to Scott's proposals regarding drug testing. The governor also suspended a state law he supported that required drug testing for welfare recipients last year after a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union. A federal judge in Orlando has temporarily blocked that law. The ACLU and a government worker's union also filed a lawsuit last year challenging Scott's order to drug test state employees, saying the testing violates the Fourth Amendment by subjecting state workers to an unreasonable search without adequate suspicion that they used drugs. Scott, who suspended drug testing for state employees in June, said he will appeal Thursday's ruling.

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4/27/12

STUDENT LOAN

PABLO SANCHEZ. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:00

Republican leaders are ready to try pushing legislation through the House holding down interest rates on federal loans to millions of college students. Democrats say that's a goal the GOP has adopted only lately, but the top House Democrat is opposing the measure anyway in a fight that highlights how election-year politics is coloring Congress' work. The House planned to vote Friday on the bill, which would keep interest rates at 3.4 percent for subsidized Stafford loans, instead of rising as scheduled to 6.8 percent on July 1. The GOP-written package would cover its \$5.9 billion cost by plucking money from a preventive health fund established in President Barack Obama's 2010 health care overhaul law -- a cut many Democrats are reluctant to make.

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04/28/2012

ALABAMA IMMIGRATION LAW TRAGEDY

MARIA ANTONIETA COLLINS - MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

PKG: 2:44

But the Mexican newspaper delivery supervisor - who was raising his five American-born sons in Chicago after living in the country for more than two decades - actually turned down the government's offer to try his chances at getting a green card granting permanent residency status in immigration court instead. "Seeing how sure my lawyer was about my case, I said, let's fight it," said Rojano, who won his case earlier this year. "I'm glad, because if they had closed my case, they wouldn't have given me my residency." While the U.S. government is offering to shelve some deportation cases, some immigrants are rejecting the deal, preferring to take a shot at winning asylum or a green card in immigration court. That's because the government's offer wouldn't end the specter of deportation and doesn't promise a work permit or green card.

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04/29/2012

ALABAMA UNDOCUMENTED ACTIVIST

MARIA ANTONIETA COLLINS - MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

PKG: 2:36

Their lengthy walk to the nation's capital started March 10 in San Francisco on the Golden Gate Bridge. A little over two weeks later, the group of six walkers for the Campaign for an American Dream, has found itself stuck in Salt Lake City. "We were in Battle Mountain Nevada when our 1985 RV broke down," said walker Raymi Gutierrez, a 23-year-old Utah native. "Instead of leaving it, we decided to get it towed here and try to sell it." The walkers had used the RV as a support vehicle to carry supplies and to sleep in. Until they sell it and buy another RV, the walkers will share their message of support for the Dream Act and immigration reform to Utahns. The act would give children brought here by undocumented immigrant parents a chance at naturalization if they attended college or joined the military. The walkers are schedule to speak at the University of Utah student union building at 5 p.m. Saturday about their nearly 3,000-mile trek to Washington D.C., which they plan to reach by Election Day.

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04/30/2012

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON THE RISE

LOURDES DEL RIO / MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:56

Police are encountering more domestic violence related to the sluggish economy, a national survey of law enforcement agencies finds.

The review, part of a continuing examination of how economic conditions are affecting law enforcement by the Police Executive Research Forum found that 56% of the 700 responding agencies reported that the poor economy is driving an increase in domestic conflict, up from 40% of agencies in a similar survey in 2010.

TX PLANNED PARENTHOOD RULING**VO :30**

A federal judge on Monday temporarily blocked a new Texas rule that would have excluded Planned Parenthood clinics from offering women's health services for the poor in the state because the organization provides abortions. The ruling by U.S. District Judge Lee Yeakel in favor of

Planned Parenthood means thousands of women enrolled in the Texas Women's Health Program who go to its clinics will not be required to find new healthcare providers, at least for now.

MORE ADDICTED BABIES

VO :27

The number of babies born addicted to the class of drugs that includes prescription painkillers has nearly tripled in the past decade, according to the first national study of its kind. Babies born in withdrawal are often born small and are at a higher risk of death than other infants, according to the study.

"ES EL MOMENTO CAMPAING" : ETHNIC STUDIES

JAIME GARCIA / TUCSON ARIZONA

PKG 2:01

A group of Arizona students protest after a state law that prohibits the teaching of ethnic studies in schools. How important are those classes for students? The ruling could affect universities soon.

=====END OF REPORT=====